



Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Tennessee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, August 8, 2008

A federal jury in Greeneville on Monday convicted a woman accused of selling diseased puppies to unsuspecting customers and defrauding the government.

The jurors in U.S. District Court found Gina De'Lynn Price guilty on seven of the nine remaining charges against her, according to Assistant U.S. Attorney Nancy Harr. Harr said the most serious charges for which Price was convicted were two counts of wire and mail fraud, stemming from her puppy-selling business.

From her Rebel Ridge Kennel in Blountville, Tenn., Price sold English bulldogs for upwards of \$1,000 each.

Many of these dogs were purchased from Russia and Baltic countries. Some of Price's customers complained that they had been misled to believe the dogs would be healthy and had been raised at Price's kennel in Tennessee. Instead, they charged in testimony during the two-week trial that their dogs arrived with genetic or contagious diseases.

A few of the pets died shortly after adoption.

In addition, the jury found that Price tried to hide from the government the more than \$1 million she made on the Rebel Ridge Kennels venture. The jury also found Price guilty of two counts of submitting false Social Security documents claiming she was disabled, one count of concealing her income in order to continue to receive Social Security benefits, and two counts of filing false income tax returns in 2004 and 2005.

She was acquitted of two counts of witness intimidation, Harr said.

A sentencing date has been set for Dec. 8. Price was taken into custody following the verdict.